

St. Marys Downtown Development Authority (DDA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2014

The meeting of the St. Marys DDA was called to order by Straight at 8:30 am. Straight welcomed Dave Reilly as the new City Council representative on the board as well as the audience guests.

Members Present: Gary Straight, Jim Lomis Charlie Smith, Cheri Richter, Councilman Dave Reilly, and Terry Landreth

Members not Present: Jerry Brandon,

Guest in attendance: Tom Canning, Councilwoman Linda Williams, Councilman Bob Nutter and Mr. Allen Muldrew, Executive Director of the Downtown Statesboro Development Authority (DSDA)

Staff: Steven S. Crowell, Jr.; Interim Economic Development Director, Renée Coakley; Executive Assistant

Meeting began with each board member and guest giving a brief introduction of themselves.

Minutes: The board reviewed the December 16, 2013 meeting minutes. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Smith and seconded by Landreth. All were in favor.

Treasurers Report: Smith reviewed the financials and motion to approve was made by Smith and seconded by Landreth. Question was asked about the negative income amount on the DDA balance sheet and if this figure will remain or be adjusted after this fiscal year. The City Manager will follow up at the next meeting with an answer. All were in favor.

Additions to the Agenda: Richter mentioned that Historic Tree Trail that current Mayor Morrissey has reported on in the past. A committee has been created and Richter is currently a member on that committee. The group is interested in creating an interpretive trail near the cemetery and possibly having the trail paved and installing stations with descriptive information posted. Richter requested that this item be added as a future line item to the agenda. Other than that note there were no additions to today's agenda.

BUSINESS DISCUSSION:

Team Camden: The City Manager reported that he attended the last meeting. The future of Team Camden will depend on the outcome of the Joint Development Authority (JDA). The JDA is going through a hiring process. The City Manager also noted that after the resignation of the Economic Development Director, the JDA sent a letter to the city proposing to assist with Economic Development in some form. The City Council asked the JDA for a proposal on what that assistance would entail. Council is currently still waiting for that information. Straight asked if the DDA should be proactive and send a letter to the JDA to direct how the DDA would like the relationship with the JDA structured. Lomis noted that this should be an agenda item on the DDA Planning Session agenda. The City Manager suggested that the DDA send a memo to council soon regarding their concerns in respect to the future relationship with the JDA. Straight and the City Manager will co-write a letter to City Council and forward a copy to the JDA.

Main Street Presentation: Main Street Presentation was given by Mr. Muldrew. Mr. Muldrew gave examples of various successful projects in his city. A copy of his PowerPoint will be emailed to the board members.

St. Marys Intracoastal Gateway (SMIG): Straight noted that there was nothing to report for this committee, but recognized Councilman Nutter as the new member appointed to the SMIG Committee.

Maritime Heritage District (MHD): Richter reported that the dock is now open.

Economic Development Committee: Lomis reported that the committee is continuing to move forward. They have formed three groups and are working on a dashboard that will be presented at a future DDA meeting.

DDA Golf Cart: Straight noted that the golf cart has been sold for \$1500. This figure will be reflected on the January DDA financial statements.

DDA Planning Session: Renée noted that with the new Department of Community Affairs guidelines, the DDA Planning Session will need to occur earlier in the year. After discussion, the board decided to have the planning session facilitated on the February meeting date. The board will have a brief meeting on Monday, February 10th at 8:30 am and the planning session will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at 2:00 pm if not before. Renée will contact Peggy Jolley with Georgia Power to see if she will be available to facilitate this year.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Businesses and Updates: The City Manager had nothing to report.

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am with a motion by Smith and seconded by Reilly. All were in favor.

Charlie Smith, Secretary

Prepared by Renée Coakley, Executive Assistant